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SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE BAT HAWK *MACHEIRAMPHUS ALCINUS* I have watched a Bat Hawk in Langata, Nairobi between 7 and 24 November 1980; some of the more noteworthy observations are given below:

7 November: I saw the Bat Hawk flying both in the morning and afternoon. The bird resembled a large falcon; it made fast circles about 10 m above the ground. The appearance, flight-style, irregular dull brown markings of the underside and its large size led me to think at first that it was a Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug*. However, the lack of barring on the tail and wing distinguished it as a Bat Hawk.

10 November: the Bat Hawk was flying round at about 60 m when it was attacked by a Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus*. The Lanner was evidently disturbed, as it was 'hecking' loudly when it closed in. The Bat Hawk was flying at a slower rate yet easily avoided the Lanner's half-hearted stoops. After the Lanner had left, the Bat Hawk landed on a tree and I was able to confirm the original identification.

16 November: at 17:00 hrs, in bright daylight during a break in a storm, I saw it leave its favorite tree, fly around, and reappear with a bird (probably a swift *Apus* sp.) in its foot. It was being chased by a Hobby Falcon *Falco subbuteo*, but, before landing, the Bat Hawk swallowed the prey.

17 November: during heavy rain a dark phase Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora* was occupying the Bat Hawk's habitual perch; on the approach of the Bat Hawk the falcon flew away.

18 November: again, during heavy rain, the Bat Hawk was seen to chase a Steppe Buzzard *Buteo buteo vulpinus* but took no notice of 20-30 Eastern Red-footed Falcons *Falco amurensis* which were hawking termites overhead. Three days later it chased a Black Kite *Milvus migrans* and attempted to strike it.

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